that of the earlier programme. The death rates have also reduced from 29% to 4%. DOTS coverage is being rapidly expanded in the country. From 20 million coverage in 1998, about 760 million population has been covered at present. It is envisaged to cover 850 million population by 2004 under the revised strategy and the entire population of the country by 2005.

(c) IEC activity, is one of the important components of TB control strategy. Facts about TB and DO's and DON'Ts are published in the leading national newspapers from time to time. Similarly, State/Districts TB Societies also publish the same in the regional and local newspapers. IEC prototype material has been developed at the Central level and given to the State to translate into the local language. The Districts plan IEC activities as per local requirement and use locally available media to create awareness among the masses, including backward and tribal areas. Districts have been advised to ensure wall paintings in microscopy and DOT centres and at prominent places to convey the message that TB is fully curable if full course of treatment is taken and that all diagnosis and treatment facilities are provided free of cost. Bunds for undertaking IEC activities are provided under the programme.

Review of centrally sponsored health schemes

1269. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have reviewed implementation of the centrally sponsored schemes for control of major diseases like malaria, TB, leprosy, blindness and AIDS in Andhra Pradesh and other Southern States;

(b) if so, the outcome of the review, State-wise; and

(c) the remedial measures taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.